

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

STATE OF ISRAEL BOND DINNER

Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

June 2, 1974

It is a great pleasure for me to be with you tonight to honor Ray Klein for his dedicated leadership in your community, in your synagogue, and for Israel. While I have not known him personally, I have known of his good works for years.

I am also glad to be able to speak tonight on behalf of Israel Bonds and the Development Corporation for Israel.

Its work of nation building is very special to me.

Israel Bonds have helped make the creation of a democratic state a reality in an area of the world where it is difficult for the tree of democracy to take root.

Israel Bonds have helped purchase freedom for an afflicted people and have led to the fulfillment of an age-old dream for the Jewish people.

They brought prosperity and strength -- essential ingredients for a free and independent Israel.

I joined your effort - your struggle - to achieve your goals for Israel when I first came to Washington as a young Senator.

I am proud of my efforts on behalf of the state of Israel.

Proud, because I have had a small role in the history of a people long persecuted, but always persistent in their affirmation of human potential.

Proud, because there is a message in three thousand years of struggle and survival of the Jewish people as symbolized in the struggle of the state of Israel.

There is a message in the martyrdom and nameless victims of this struggle.

And the message is: That while people may be oppressed, the urge for freedom will persist undiminished.

This is the story of Israel.

This is the story of Jewish suffering and triumph.

Through the pages of Jewish history, the resolve of the Jewish people has been clear, and it is today.

In America, in Israel, in the Soviet Union, or anywhere else in the world, each generation of Jews has left its mark in the struggle for their own freedom as well as for the freedom of others.

Isaiah said:

"Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert."

The desert has been made fertile again.

A way has been made in the wilderness.

A people have grown strong and rich in spirit.

With God's help, with the spirit of a people yearning for freedom and with the aid of those around the world who believe in freedom, Israel has prospered and remained free and independent.

Those who have been associated with Israel Bonds can look back with pride and a great sense of achievement. You have played an essential and lasting role in the foundation of the Jewish state.

Today Israel faces two serious problems.

The first is remaining strong and independent.

The second is building a lasting peace with her neighbors.

It is clear that the October War took a heavy toll on Israel.

The mobilization of young men reduced economic productivity.

The cost of the war ran into the billions.

The loss of expensive military equipment meant that Israel would have to deplete its precious reserves of foreign currency to buy new weapons for its self-defense.

I am pleased that the United States came to the aid of Israel with supplemental military aid amounting to \$2.2 billion and that \$1 billion of that sum was in the form of grant assistance.

And I am happy that I was able to manage that vital legislation in the Senate.

This aid was badly needed to keep Israel strong to maintain the balance of power and to convince the Arab world and the Soviet Union that we would not desert our friends.

Israel may need more assistance in order to preserve its economy and maintain its military strength.

We will soon be considering our foreign aid bill. I want to assure you that the Congress will take a very close look at the President's request for aid to Israel for this year. There are some very strong indications that the sum may be insufficient.

And while we are discussing the subject of foreign assistance, I want to repeat my position on an important current issue.

The President has requested that Congress authorize economic assistance to several Arab countries.

I would sharply question assistance to oil producing nations which have recently been enriched by the high prices they have charged the rest of the world for vitally needed fuel exports.

However, I approve of this aid where it is needed to help rebuild and develop what are essentially poor and underdeveloped nations.

It is in our humanitarian tradition to aid those in need.

It is important that we demonstrate our desire to re-establish normal relations with Egypt and other countries in the region.

It is basic to achieving lasting peace and to assuring Israel's security.

But I do not believe that the United States should grant economic assistance to Egypt until we have its assurance that ships of all nations -- including those flying the flag of Israel -- will be allowed passage through the Suez Canal.

The right of free Israeli passage through the Canal is guaranteed under international law and international treaty.

But, Israel has never been granted that right.

We know that ships of the Soviet Navy will have access to the Canal, thereby shortening the time and distance and cost involved in maintaining a military presence in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean, with all that this portends.

It would be a travesty and a gross injustice, if the Suez Canal is opened to Soviet ships and closed to our friend, Israel.

It makes absolutely no sense for American tax dollars to be spent for the clearing and opening of the Suez Canal, only to have our friends denied passage through this international waterway.

As a member of Congress, I will insist on fair and equal treatment for Israel.

Until Israel is assured the right of passage through the Canal, I cannot support the President's request for economic aid to Egypt.

I call upon Secretary Kissinger to inform the Congress and the American people of any assurances that he might have obtained from President Sadat relating to Israeli use of the Suez Canal.

I do not see how the Congress can approve this request until we have evidence that international law will be upheld.

Israel's second great need -- peace with her neighbors -- is an aim that has yet to be fulfilled.

Despite the very commendable efforts of Secretary Kissinger, despite the successful troop disengagement on the Egyptian front, and last week on the Syrian front, much work remains to be done if a lasting peace is to be achieved.

Shuttle diplomacy has worked excellently in achieving disengagement and this was a critical first step toward peace. But, it cannot produce a lasting peace. The toughest negotiations are yet to begin. They will not be successful unless all parties work out acceptable solutions to their problems in direct, face-to-face bargaining.

It is imperative that Prime Minister Rabin, President Sadat, President Assad, and other Middle-East leaders sit down together and work out solutions to their problems.

Only through these negotiations will the basis be established for a peace in the Middle-East that can endure.

It is clear that the Palestinian terrorists do not want peace and will do everything in their power to sabotage peace efforts.

Their inhuman attack at Maalot is a tragic example of their actions and are an affront to human decency.

The nations who harbor these terrorists must realize the cancer they guard.

They must realize that there can be no constructive solution to the Palestinian problem as long as the terrorism continues.

Finally, I am certain that the one most important factor in building a lasting peace in the Middle East will be the commitment of the United States to the security of Israel.

Despite our improved relations with the Arab world -- relations which I endorse and approve -- the American commitment to Israel needs to be strengthened - made unmistakable.

-- The people of Israel, and of the rest of the world, need to know that the United States will never desert Israel and allow it to stand alone in any international forum -- be it the United Nations or any other body.

-- The people of Israel, and of the rest of the world, need to know that America will not be bullied or pressured by economic blackmail from any nation.

-- The people of Israel, and of the rest of the world, need to know that the American people believe that the national security of Israel can never be the subject of any negotiation.

The Congress of the United States knows of Israel's needs and will respond with compassion and understanding.

The President and Secretary of State have given our support to Israel during her hour of need.

But at a time of fragile peace, our commitment to a friend isolated from other nations as a result of unprecedented economic pressures -- must never waiver.

This is the only path to successful negotiation.

This is the only path to lasting peace.

# # # # #

Philadelphia

Consul General  
Shimoni

REMARKS BY SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

STATE OF ISRAEL BOND DINNER

CONGREGATION ADATH JESHURUN

ELKINS PARK, PENNSYLVANIA

Travis  
Sion  
Stephan

JUNE 2, 1974

Marshall Bernstein - Dinner Chs  
+ Gladys

Honored Guest - Raymond Klein + Miriam

Rabbi Rosenberg - Mr Hartman

Lore Stein (President) Pres congregation

Sunny Pozel - Consul General Emanuel Shimoni

Ray + Miriam Klein

Leonard Goldfine -

Nat. Campaign Chs  
5 tickets Israel Bonds

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO BE WITH YOU TONIGHT TO  
HONOR RAY KLEIN FOR HIS DEDICATED LEADERSHIP IN YOUR COMMUNITY,  
IN YOUR SYNAGOGUE, AND FOR ISRAEL. WHILE I HAVE NOT KNOWN HIM  
PERSONALLY, I HAVE KNOWN OF HIS GOOD WORKS FOR YEARS.

I AM ALSO GLAD TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK TONIGHT ON BEHALF OF  
ISRAEL BONDS AND THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR ISRAEL,

*Nation Building*  
ITS WORK OF NATION BUILDING IS VERY SPECIAL TO ME.

ISRAEL BONDS HAVE HELPED MAKE THE CREATION OF A DEMOCRATIC  
STATE A REALITY IN AN AREA OF THE WORLD WHERE IT IS DIFFICULT FOR  
THE TREE OF DEMOCRACY TO TAKE ROOT.

ISRAEL BONDS HAVE HELPED PURCHASE FREEDOM FOR AN AFFLICTED  
PEOPLE AND HAVE LED TO THE FULFILLMENT OF AN AGE-OLD DREAM FOR  
THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

*Israel Bonds have*

*economic development -*

~~THEY~~ BROUGHT ~~PROSPERITY~~ AND STRENGTH -- ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS

FOR A FREE AND INDEPENDENT ISRAEL

*Longago - I failed*

I JOINED YOUR EFFORT - YOUR STRUGGLE - TO ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS

FOR ISRAEL WHEN I FIRST CAME TO WASHINGTON AS A YOUNG SENATOR.

I AM PROUD OF MY EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF ~~ISRAEL~~

*and I am proud to*

~~PROUD, BECAUSE~~ I HAVE HAD A SMALL ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF

A PEOPLE LONG PERSECUTED, BUT ALWAYS PERSISTENT IN THEIR

AFFIRMATION OF HUMAN POTENTIAL

PROUD, BECAUSE THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THREE THOUSAND YEARS OF

STRUGGLE AND SURVIVAL OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS SYMBOLIZED IN THE

STRUGGLE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL.

↳ THERE IS A MESSAGE IN THE MARTYRDOM AND NAMELESS VICTIMS OF

THIS STRUGGLE.

AND THE MESSAGE IS: THAT WHILE PEOPLE MAY BE OPPRESSED, THE

URGE FOR FREEDOM WILL PERSIST UNDIMINISHED.

L THIS IS THE STORY OF ISRAEL,

L THIS IS THE STORY OF JEWISH SUFFERING AND TRIUMPH.

THROUGH THE PAGES OF JEWISH HISTORY, THE RESOLVE OF THE

JEWISH PEOPLE HAS BEEN CLEAR, AND IT IS TODAY,

L IN AMERICA, IN ISRAEL, IN THE SOVIET UNION, OR ANYWHERE

ELSE IN THE WORLD, EACH GENERATION OF JEWS HAS LEFT ITS MARK IN

THE STRUGGLE FOR THEIR OWN FREEDOM AS WELL AS FOR THE FREEDOM OF

OTHERS.

ISAIAH SAID:

"BEHOLD, I WILL DO A NEW THING; NOW IT SHALL  
SPRING FORTH; SHALL YE NOT KNOW IT? I WILL EVEN  
MAKE A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS, AND RIVERS IN THE  
DESERT."

↳ THE DESERT HAS BEEN MADE FERTILE AGAIN.

↳ A WAY HAS BEEN MADE IN THE WILDERNESS.

↳ A PEOPLE HAVE GROWN STRONG AND RICH IN SPIRIT.

↳ WITH GOD'S HELP, WITH THE SPIRIT OF A PEOPLE YEARNING FOR FREEDOM AND WITH THE AID OF THOSE AROUND THE WORLD WHO BELIEVE IN

FREEDOM, ISRAEL HAS PROSPERED AND REMAINED FREE AND INDEPENDENT.

+

↳ THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ISRAEL BONDS CAN LOOK BACK WITH PRIDE AND A GREAT SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT. YOU HAVE PLAYED AN ESSENTIAL AND LASTING ROLE IN THE FOUNDATION OF THE JEWISH STATE.

*But* ↳ TODAY ISRAEL FACES TWO SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

↳ THE FIRST IS REMAINING STRONG AND INDEPENDENT.

↳ THE SECOND IS BUILDING A LASTING PEACE WITH HER NEIGHBORS.

↳ IT IS CLEAR THAT THE OCTOBER WAR TOOK A HEAVY TOLL ON ISRAEL.

↳ THE MOBILIZATION OF YOUNG MEN <sup>+ women</sup> REDUCED ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY.

↳ THE COST OF THE WAR RAN INTO THE BILLIONS.

↳ THE LOSS OF EXPENSIVE MILITARY EQUIPMENT MEANT THAT ISRAEL WOULD  
HAVE TO DEplete ITS PRECIOUS RESERVES OF FOREIGN CURRENCY TO BUY NEW  
WEAPONS FOR ITS SELF-DEFENSE.

↳ I AM PLEASED THAT THE UNITED STATES CAME TO THE AID OF ISRAEL  
WITH SUPPLEMENTAL MILITARY AID AMOUNTING TO \$2.2 BILLION AND THAT  
\$1 BILLION OF THAT SUM WAS IN THE FORM OF GRANT ASSISTANCE.

↳ AND I AM HAPPY THAT I WAS ABLE TO MANAGE THAT VITAL LEGISLATION  
IN THE SENATE.

↳ THIS AID WAS BADLY NEEDED TO KEEP ISRAEL STRONG <sup>and</sup> TO MAINTAIN  
THE BALANCE OF POWER AND TO CONVINCE THE ARAB WORLD AND THE SOVIET  
UNION THAT WE WOULD NOT DESERT OUR FRIENDS.

↳ ISRAEL MAY NEED MORE ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO PRESERVE ITS ECONOMY  
AND MAINTAIN ITS MILITARY STRENGTH.

Foreign Aid

↳ WE WILL SOON BE CONSIDERING OUR FOREIGN AID BILL. I WANT TO  
ASSURE YOU THAT THE CONGRESS WILL TAKE A VERY CLOSE LOOK AT THE

PRESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR AID TO ISRAEL FOR THIS YEAR. THERE ARE SOME  
VERY STRONG INDICATIONS THAT THE SUM MAY BE INSUFFICIENT.

↳ AND WHILE WE ARE DISCUSSING THE SUBJECT OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE,  
I WANT TO REPEAT MY POSITION ON AN IMPORTANT CURRENT ISSUE,

↳ THE PRESIDENT HAS REQUESTED THAT CONGRESS AUTHORIZE ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE TO SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES.

↳ I WOULD SHARPLY QUESTION ASSISTANCE TO OIL PRODUCING NATIONS  
WHICH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN ENRICHED BY THE HIGH PRICES THEY HAVE  
CHARGED THE REST OF THE WORLD FOR VITALLY NEEDED FUEL EXPORTS.

↳ HOWEVER, I APPROVE OF THIS AID WHERE IT IS NEEDED TO HELP  
REBUILD AND DEVELOP WHAT ARE ESSENTIALLY POOR AND UNDERDEVELOPED  
NATIONS.

↳ IT IS IN OUR HUMANITARIAN TRADITION TO AID THOSE IN NEED.

↳ IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE DEMONSTRATE OUR DESIRE TO RE-ESTABLISH  
NORMAL RELATIONS WITH EGYPT AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

↳ IT IS BASIC TO ACHIEVING LASTING PEACE AND TO ASSURING ISRAEL'S  
SECURITY.

↳ BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD GRANT ECONOMIC  
ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT UNTIL WE HAVE ITS ASSURANCE THAT SHIPS OF ALL  
NATIONS -- INCLUDING THOSE FLYING THE FLAG OF ISRAEL -- WILL BE  
ALLOWED PASSAGE THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL.

↳ THE RIGHT OF FREE ISRAELI PASSAGE THROUGH THE CANAL IS GUARANTEED  
UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW AND INTERNATIONAL TREATY.

↳ BUT, ISRAEL HAS NEVER BEEN GRANTED THAT RIGHT.

↳ WE KNOW THAT SHIPS OF THE SOVIET NAVY WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE  
CANAL, THEREBY SHORTENING THE TIME AND DISTANCE AND COST INVOLVED

IN MAINTAINING A MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE PERSIAN GULF AND THE  
INDIAN OCEAN, WITH ALL THAT THIS PORTENDS.

↳ IT WOULD BE A TRAVESTY AND A GROSS INJUSTICE, IF THE SUEZ CANAL  
IS OPENED TO SOVIET SHIPS AND CLOSED TO OUR FRIEND, ISRAEL.

↳ IT MAKES ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE FOR AMERICAN TAX DOLLARS TO BE  
SPENT FOR THE CLEARING AND OPENING OF THE SUEZ CANAL, ONLY TO HAVE  
OUR FRIENDS DENIED PASSAGE THROUGH THIS INTERNATIONAL WATERWAY.

As a member of Congress, I will insist on fair and equal  
treatment for Israel.

Until Israel is assured the right of passage through the Canal,  
I cannot support the President's request for economic aid to Egypt.

I call upon Secretary Kissinger to inform the Congress and the  
American people of any assurances that he might have obtained from  
President Sadat relating to Israeli use of the Suez Canal.

I do not see how the Congress can approve this request until  
we have evidence that international law will be upheld.

#2  
Israel's second great need -- peace with her neighbors -- is  
an aim that has yet to be fulfilled.

↳ DESPITE THE VERY COMMENDABLE EFFORTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER,  
DESPITE THE SUCCESSFUL TROOP DISENGAGEMENT ON THE EGYPTIAN FRONT,  
AND LAST WEEK ON THE SYRIAN FRONT, MUCH WORK REMAINS TO BE DONE IF  
A LASTING PEACE IS TO BE ACHIEVED.

↳ " SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY HAS WORKED EXCELLENTLY IN ACHIEVING DISENGAGEMENT  
AND THIS WAS A CRITICAL FIRST STEP TOWARD PEACE, BUT IT CANNOT PRODUCE  
A LASTING PEACE. ↳ THE TOUGHEST NEGOTIATIONS ARE YET TO BEGIN. ↳ THEY  
WILL NOT BE SUCCESSFUL UNLESS ALL PARTIES WORK OUT ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS  
TO THEIR PROBLEMS IN DIRECT, FACE-TO-FACE BARGAINING.

↳ IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT PRIME MINISTER RABIN, PRESIDENT SADAT,  
PRESIDENT ASSAD, AND OTHER MIDDLE-EAST LEADERS SIT DOWN TOGETHER AND  
WORK OUT SOLUTIONS TO THEIR PROBLEMS.

↳ ONLY THROUGH THESE NEGOTIATIONS WILL THE BASIS BE ESTABLISHED  
FOR A PEACE IN THE MIDDLE-EAST THAT CAN ENDURE.

↳ IT IS CLEAR THAT THE PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS DO NOT WANT PEACE  
AND WILL DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO SABOTAGE PEACE EFFORTS.

↳ THEIR INHUMAN ATTACK AT <sup>*Mah-shloot*</sup> MĀALOT IS A TRAGIC EXAMPLE OF THEIR  
<sup>*Ma-alot*</sup>  
ACTIONS AND ARE AN AFFRONT TO HUMAN DECENCY.

↳ THE NATIONS WHO HARBOR THESE TERRORISTS MUST REALIZE THE  
CANCER THEY GUARD.

↳ THEY MUST REALIZE THAT THERE CAN BE NO CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTION  
TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM AS LONG AS THE TERRORISM CONTINUES.

↳ FINALLY, I AM CERTAIN THAT THE ONE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN  
BUILDING A LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WILL BE THE COMMITMENT  
OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL.

↳ DESPITE OUR IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB WORLD -- RELATIONS  
WHICH I ENDORSE AND APPROVE -- THE AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL NEEDS  
TO BE STRENGTHENED - MADE UNMISTAKABLE.

L-- THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, AND OF THE REST OF THE WORLD, NEED TO  
KNOW THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL NEVER DESERT ISRAEL AND ALLOW IT TO  
STAND ALONE IN ANY INTERNATIONAL FORUM -- BE IT THE UNITED NATIONS OR  
ANY OTHER BODY.

L-- THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, AND OF THE REST OF THE WORLD, NEED TO  
KNOW THAT AMERICA WILL NOT BE BULLIED OR PRESSURED BY ECONOMIC  
BLACKMAIL FROM ANY NATION.

L-- THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL, AND OF THE REST OF THE WORLD, NEED TO  
KNOW THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT THE NATIONAL SECURITY  
OF ISRAEL CAN NEVER BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY NEGOTIATION.

THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES KNOWS OF ISRAEL'S NEEDS  
AND WILL RESPOND WITH COMPASSION AND UNDERSTANDING.

THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE HAVE GIVEN OUR SUPPORT  
TO ISRAEL DURING HER HOUR OF NEED.

BUT AT A TIME OF FRAGILE PEACE, OUR COMMITMENT TO A FRIEND  
ISOLATED FROM OTHER NATIONS AS A RESULT OF UNPRECEDENTED ECONOMIC  
PRESSURES -- MUST NEVER WAIVER.

THIS IS THE ONLY PATH TO SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION.

THIS IS THE ONLY PATH TO LASTING PEACE.

#####



# Minnesota Historical Society

Copyright in this digital version belongs to the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, link to, or email content, however, for individual use.

To request permission for commercial or educational use, please contact the Minnesota Historical Society.



[www.mnhs.org](http://www.mnhs.org)